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No. 206

## House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

December 7, 2020.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In the waning days of this 116th Congress, we ask Your blessing upon the Members of this people's House and, most especially, upon leadership. It is on their shoulders the most important negotiations of this Congress have been placed.

The coronavirus continues to ravage communities throughout the Nation. Bless the Members here with the good will and courage to work through differences to find assistance for so many Americans in dire need at this time. Help and empower them also as they work toward a total funding of our government into a stronger and more hopeful future.

Bless, as well, those who labor among our sick. Keep them safe and bless their families for their generosity during these times.

May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution

967, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. GARCIA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GARCIA of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK), the whole number of the House is 430.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE YUREK

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, as we mark today, the 79th year since Pearl Harbor, I want to tell you about my friend, George Yurek, who, when he got into the Army in 1942, volunteered for bomb disposal. He went to Corregidor, "The Rock" of the Philippines.

His unit was in the first amphibious wave on the island. There were so many landmines there that, with U.S.

troops amassing for landing, they had very little time. They had to defuse the landmines by hand, and they called for volunteers.

Sergeant George Yurek of West Wyoming, Pennsylvania, volunteered to defuse landmines by hand, and he defused hundreds of them. It is impossible to count how many American troops he saved by his actions.

For his heroism in the Pacific, George Yurek was awarded a total of four Bronze Stars for valor.

Last week, at the age of 98, George passed away, after mentoring countless young people in all the Wyoming Valley.

George and his late wife, Ellie, were married for 67 years. They leave three children, Greg, George, and Ann, and seven grandchildren.

May God rest his soul.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF CHERI FLEMING

(Mr. GARCIA of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and to honor the life of someone very special to my hometown of Santa Clarita.

Ms. Cheri Fleming, a radiant mom, a beautiful wife, a savvy businesswoman, and an avid philanthropist, passed away on November 16.

Cheri was an icon in the Santa Clarita Valley. She was the brilliant and shining essence of everything that is great about my hometown. She led with grace. She succeeded in business with humility. She supported charities with endless generosity. She loved her friends and family intensely, always giving one of the most warm hugs you can imagine.

As a philanthropist, Cheri was one of the primary reasons why so many non-profit organizations in our district are

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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